

INTIMATIONS.

GOLD MEDALS & SILVER MEDALS
By Appointment.

KUHN & CO.
HONGKONG. YOKOHAMA
(Established, 1869.)

FINE ART
CHRISTMAS SHOW
(1892)

BROWN, JONES & CO.
ITALIAN AND AMERICAN MARBLE
MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS
IN STOCK.

METALLIC AND POLYCHROME
WREATHS AND CROSSES.

A SKILLED EUROPEAN STONEMAN
SUPERINTENDS ALL WORK.
PROMPT ATTENTION TO ORDERS FROM
COASTAL PORTS.
Hongkong, 7th August, 1891.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

WE invite attention to our first supplies of
CONFECTORY AND
CHRISTMAS GOODS

received by the last Mail.

JORDAN ALMONDS, NOUGAT, BUTTER,
THE SCOTCH, ASSORTED TOFFEES,
DRAGEES, PRALINES, and a large selection
of PURE CONFECTERY from the
leading Manufacturers.

CADBURY'S SPECIAL CHOCOLATE
CREMES.

PINE, APRICOT, CHERBY, LIME,
GUAVA, and other FRUIT JELLIES in
great variety.

TOM SMITH'S CHRISTMAS
CRACKERS.

COLOURED OPALS mounted in
Plush, representing famous subjects.

A large assortment of ENGLISH and JA-
PANESE CHRISTMAS CARDS, of hand
and artistic design, suitable to all tastes
and at moderate prices.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
ESTABLISHED AD. 1841.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1891.

DEATHS.
At his late residence, No. 4, Rosario Terrace, Hongkong, 1st December, after a lingering illness, Louis Lefebvre, in the age of 51 years, 1891.
On the 12th November, at No. 103, Yokohama, J. Isaacs.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 10TH, 1891.

The management of her colonies is one thing that France does not manage better than England. The feeling of the colonists in Cochin-China at the present moment is one of extreme exasperation, in comparison with which the irritation lately aroused in the English Crown Colonies sinks into insignificance.

A heavy Customs tariff has been imposed in favour of French manufacturers, which has seriously prejudiced the trade of the Colony and reduced the public income, and at the same time a heavy contribution is demanded towards the cost of establishing French rule in Tonkin. Some years ago a subvention of eight million francs was demanded from Cochin-China on behalf of Tonkin. For next year the figure is placed at six and a half millions, but the colonists claim that owing to the falling off in the public revenue, due principally to the Customs tariff, the Colony cannot possibly pay more than five millions. Every effort has been made to have the demand reduced to this amount, but without effect, and as a final protest the members of the Colonial Council, the Municipal Council, and the Chamber of Commerce have all tendered their resignations. It is not only the amount that is in question, but also the manner of its payment.

The General Manager (Meers, Jardine, Matheson & Co.) informed me that the Indo-Chinese steamer *Kutson*, from Calcutta and Straits for this port, left Singapore on the 5th instant at 4 p.m.

There was only one vessel left in Vladivostok harbour about a fortnight ago, a Russian man-of-war from Sapporo, but attempts were made to keep a channel clear of ice for expected steamer.

We are requested to state that H. S. Sir William Robinson will land at Peitou's Wharf shortly after the arrival of the Empress of Japan, which is expected at 11 a.m. Members of the community are invited to receive His Excellency.

Y. (Meers) learn that the Chinese Minister of England, France, and Russia to the Emperor, has written to the Emperor to pay back the 100,000 francs he borrowed from the bank in Paris. The Emperor has granted the petition.

The paper says (the Mercury) that the Chinese Minister of France has been received by the Emperor.

There are two reasons for this. The first is that the Chinese Minister of France has been received by the Emperor.

The second reason is that the Chinese Minister of France has been received by the Emperor.

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THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL BUREAU.

STATION, ALTITUDE, & CO.

STATION.	ALT.	WIND.	WEATHER.	SKIES.
Waddington	1,000	—	—	—
Tokio	—	—	—	—
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	—	—	—	—
Amoy	—	—	—	—
Shantung	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Victoria Peak	—	—	—	—
Macau	—	—	—	—
Holloway	—	—	—	—
Holmes	—	—	—	—
Hanita	—	—	—	—
Cape S. James	—	—	—	—
Waddington	1,000	—	—	—
Tokio	—	—	—	—
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	—	—	—	—
Amoy	—	—	—	—
Shantung	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Victoria Peak	—	—	—	—
Macau	—	—	—	—
Holloway	—	—	—	—
Holmes	—	—	—	—
Hanita	—	—	—	—
Cape S. James	—	—	—	—

Barometer has risen slightly. Gradually the weather is getting

for the 10th inst. Weather report, cool, cloudy. (Issued at 10.30 a.m.)

Waddington

Tokio

Nagasaki

Yokohama

Amoy

Shantung

Hongkong

Victoria Peak

Macau

Holloway

Holmes

Hanita

Cape S. James

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Macau

Holloway

TO LET

TO LET

"RAVENSHILL" on the ¹ RENNISON ROAD, lately in the occupation of C. D. Harman, Esq. 6 Rooms, 3 Bath and Dressing Rooms, &c.
Apply to W. WOTTON, Hongkong, 10th December, 1891. [2669]

TO LET

TWO Commodious 4-Roomed HOUSES known as WEST END TERRACE. Rent moderate. Apply to SPANISH PROCURATION, Hongkong, 3rd November, 1891. [2472]

TO LET

FIVE ROOMS on the Upper Floor of the ICE COMPANY'S PREMISES in ICE-HOUSE LANE, and 3 LARGE OFFICES on the First Floor. Apply to the Manager of the Depot, or to JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Managers, Hongkong, 26th June, 1891. [1164]

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO LET

KOWLOON.

A FEW HOUSES in KUTSFORD TERRACE, containing 5 Rooms each and Bath Rooms, and Courts. Reasonably situated. Cheap Rent. Apply to

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 7th August, 1891. [1875]

TO LET

"KOWLOON POINT" approaching completion, includes or single rooms; three minutes' walk from Sloan Ferry every quarter of an hour. THE HOMESTEAD" KILHET RIDGE, furnished, from 1st NOVEMBER. LAND FOR COAL STORAGE at WEST POINT, deep water frontage, and at KOWLOON. GODOWNS, WEAVER. GODOWNS at KOWLOON POINT. Apply to

SHAW & CO. Telegraph House, Hongkong, 14th October, 1891. [146]

TO LET

DESIRABLE OFFICE on FIRST or SECOND FLOOR, and GODOWNS, No. 13, PRATA CENTRAL. Apply to STOELFERTH & HIRST. Hongkong, 22nd May, 1891. [1265]

TO LET

THE DESIRABLE FAMILY RESIDENCE, No. 4, THE ABERNETHY. Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIDS. Hongkong, 3rd December, 1891. [1263]

TO LET

HOUSE to let, No. 18, HOLLYWOOD ROAD. Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO. Hongkong, 5th December, 1891. [1265]

THE WANGHOU WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO LET

THE SECOND FLOOR of No. 11, FATA EAST, consisting of 5 Rooms and 2 Bath-rooms with Servants' Quarters at \$50 per month, including taxes.

3 ROOMS with Bathrooms, at \$25 per month. Apply to

MAYER & CO., General Managers. Hongkong, 8th December, 1891. [1267]

TO LET

FROM THE 15TH JANUARY NEXT. THE HOUSE now building on the PEAK ROAD above Mr. Peacock's House, eight rooms. Or if preferred, BELLEVUE, on the PEAK ROAD, six rooms. Apply to

CARLOWITZ & CO. Hongkong, 31st October, 1891. [12449]

TO LET

N. 5, WEST TERRACE. Immediate entry. Apply to G. C. ANDERSON, 18, Praya Central. Hongkong, 26th November, 1891. [12885]

TO LET

ROOMS in PEDDER'S STREET. First Floor, suitable for Office. Apply to COTICKSHANK & CO., LTD. Hongkong, 29th November, 1891. [12623]

TO LET

THE DESIRABLE RESIDENCES, CHAIGELLACHIE, BONHAM ROAD. STOWFORD, BONHAM ROAD. Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIDS. Hongkong, 25th June, 1891. [12622]

TO LET

THE DESIRABLE RESIDENCE, No. 5, VICTORIA View, Kowloon Point. Five Rooms, Basement, 5 feet high. With Tennis Court. Water laid on. Apply to

W. BREWER, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 28th November, 1891. [2669]

TO LET

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. THE HOUSE "CREGGAN" at the PEAK. Last position. Apply to M. S. SASSOON & CO. Hongkong, 27th November, 1891. [12603]

TO LET

THREE 5-Roomed HOUSES, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, STEWART TERRACE, close to the Peak Church. With Tennis Law. Rent \$35 each, including taxes. Apply to

HO NYSON, No. 7, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, 21st November, 1891. [12731]

TO LET

POSSESSION OF THE 1st DECEMBER, 1891. THE HOUSE "ROCKLANDS" on ROBINSON ROAD, apply to THOS. HOWARD, 18, Bank Buildings. Hongkong, 19th November, 1891. [12522]

TO LET

RESIDENTIAL FLATS AND GO-DOWN, BLUE BUILDINGS. Apply to THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 17th November, 1891. [12638]

TO LET

SEPARATELY OR IN BLOCKS OF TWO OR MORE HOUSES, for SOLE PURCHASERS. NINE FIVE-ROOMED HOUSES and 2 SEMI-DETACHED SIX-ROOMED HOUSES at MOUNTAIN VIEW, Hill District, Kowloon. The Hill District consists of 100 acres, to be sold by the COMPANY'S OFFICE, where full particulars may be obtained. The COMPANY'S DELEGATION will be accepted at 10 in the Hill of Cash.

JOHN A. JUFP,

Secretary, The Austin Arms Hill and Building Company, Limited. Hongkong, 26th July, 1891. [12707]

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY, AND TAMSUL

THE COMPANY'S Steamship

"HAILOONG."

Captain Beach, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 11th Inst., at DAY-LIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1891. [12681]

TO LET

TWO Commodious 4-Roomed HOUSES known as WEST END TERRACE. Rent moderate. Apply to

SPANISH PROCURATION, Hongkong, 3rd November, 1891. [2472]

TO LET

FIVE ROOMS on the Upper Floor of the ICE COMPANY'S PREMISES in ICE-HOUSE LANE, and 3 LARGE OFFICES on the First Floor.

Apply to the Manager of the Depot, or to JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 26th June, 1891. [1164]

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

LONDON VIA PORTS OF CALL.

LONDON VIA SINGAPORE & CO.

BREMEN & PORTS OF GERMANY.

MARSEILLE & PORTS OF GERMANY.

SAIGON, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

HONGKONG, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

YOKOHAMA, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

SAN FRANCISCO, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

HONOLULU.

NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

NEW YORK.

STEWAITS & BOMBAY.

YOKOHAMA, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

AMOY, AND TAMSUL.

THE COMPANY'S Steamship

"NERONA."

Captain E. H. Seymour, will leave for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 11th Inst., at NOON.

E. A. HEWITT

for Superintendent.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1891. [12681]

TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 7th August, 1891. [1875]

TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 14th October, 1891. [146]

TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 22nd May, 1891. [1265]

TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 8th December, 1891. [12681]

TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 26th November, 1891. [12885]

TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 29th November, 1891. [12623]

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THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong, 27th November, 1891. [12603]

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TO LET

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. Hongkong

MAIL SUPPLEMENT TO THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 10th, 1891.

THE CIVIL SERVICE DEBATE.

The report of the debate on the Civil Service at Monday's meeting of the Legislative Council will have been read with amusement by the frivolous and with pain by the thoughtful. The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD proposed that a commission should be appointed with full powers to enquire into and report on the working of all the Departments of the Government with the view to retrenchment, and to the desirability or otherwise of the redistribution of work, the amalgamation of certain offices, the increasing of the hours of the official day, privileges in the way of leave, &c. The proposal was received with more warmth than disapprobation by the Acting Colonial Secretary, who allowed himself to fall into a contemptuous tone very unbecoming to the dignity of his office. Mr. WHITEHEAD was told that his remarks were "sudden and came out of his mouth" and that gentlemen would not come out from England to join the Hongkong Civil Service "if they were to be entirely under the thumb of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD." This is a new statement language for the Hongkong Legislative Council, and possibly Mr. GOODMAN himself would be rather surprised to find in his speech to find how far he had allowed himself to be carried away by the heat of the moment. Mr. WHITEHEAD's action may have been somewhat exasperating. He had been told that General BAXTER, the Acting Governor, could not entertain such a resolution as that proposed by the hon. member when brought forward on the very eve of the arrival of a new Governor. Under the circumstances it might have been considered that it would have been more in the public interest to postpone the resolution for a week or two, and Mr. WHITEHEAD's action in bringing it forward on Monday might be construed as being dictated by a desire to annoy. However this may be, the hon. gentleman did not approach to anything in the nature of personal rudeness in his remarks and was entitled to expect civility in any reply that might be made to him. And in the resolution itself there was nothing that should have excited anger. In the recitals with which it was prefaced there were statements and inferences which we do not think will command the assent of the general public, but that it would be a good thing if a commission were appointed to inquire into the working of the Civil Service, a proposition that hardly admits of dispute. Several such commissions have sat in England and it would be an excellent thing if the Civil Service of every country in the world were subjected to a close and formal investigation periodically.

General BAXTER whose remarks on Monday could not have been in better taste, endeavoured to show that the Government was alive to its duty and gave one instance in which he himself had recommended an amalgamation of offices. But while we have no doubt his Excellency would specially correct abuses that obtruded themselves on his notice or suggest improvements that ought to be made, we think he would hardly claim to have conducted any searching and systematic investigation into the working of the Service with the view of ferreting out abuses and effecting economies. This is what is required, for we all know how apt things are to run on in the same groove long after the circumstances which may have made that groove at one time useful have changed. There ought to be no objection on the part of the Government to letting light on in the working of the Service. If no abuses or wastefulness are discovered so much the better, but if on the other hand it is found on investigation that economy can be effected or efficiency be promoted by making certain changes surely no one will deny that those changes ought to be made. Mr. WHITEHEAD, however, in the recitals to his resolution and in his speech fell into the error of exaggeration. He might have spared the ancient joke about the sad fate of the island of St. Thomas, which is surely entitled by this time to be ranked as a "chouton." Passing this by, however, we come to the serious part of the matter. It does not necessarily follow that because now appointments are continually being made those appointments are unnecessary. It is not to be expected that a colony with a population of two hundred and twenty thousand can be administered with the same staff or for the same cost as when its population was only half that number. Concurrently with the increase in the staff of the Government Service we have seen an increase in the staff of the Banks and the other commercial institutions. Turning to the theory we see that whereas the staff of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at the Hongkong branch numbered twenty in 1881, in 1891 it numbered thirty-five. Mr. WHITEHEAD also showed his usual lubricious tongue with regard to the financial outlook, on which point he was to some extent supported by the Hon. J. J. KEEWICK, who says that our revenue is static, rather a vague term. It is true the Colony has been touched by the depression that has of late been experienced almost every commercial centre in the world, but to our mind few places have a more cheerful outlook than Hongkong. With our geographical position and the large and as yet very imperfectly exploited markets by which we are surrounded, the trade of this Colony is bound to increase, and there is nothing extravagant in the prediction that its population will within the next twenty-five years reach half a million.

No reasonable man can take stock of our conditions and fail to come to the conclusion that the place is bound to grow. It is important that we should not unduly discount the future and increase our expenditure beyond what is warranted by the natural growth of the Colony, but with an increasing trade and growing population we may be satisfied that the revenue will suffice to meet the legitimate demands made upon it. Mr. KEEWICK says that the revenue is not elastic because we have no those numerous sources of income which are found elsewhere; but it should not be forgotten that this is only because we have not thought fit to tap those sources, and we hope they never will be tapped. If our aim were simply to secure elasticity of revenue we might resort to Customs duties, tonnage dues, income tax, and various other sources of revenue which are made use of in other places. Increased taxation, however, would strike more or less severely at the prosperity of the Colony, and it is therefore of importance that the cost of Government should be kept as low as is reasonably possible. But some expenditure of course there must be. Mr. KEEWICK, although he thinks the revenue is not elastic, fully recognises this fact, and says he does not think a shrinkage is to be feared to that point at which our necessary expenditure will be in excess of our revenue. We do not think there will be any permanent shrinkage at all; fluctuations there may, and no doubt will be, but the general tendency will ineluctably be towards expansion, open without tapping new sources of revenue, and the time has come

for the stations are now under the administration of the Chinese Foreign Customs and accurate statistics of the junk trade are collected and published. So far as that branch of the total trade is concerned any statistics that might be collected by the Colonial Government would simply be a duplication of those collected by the Customs Authorities, and no doubt in order to avoid unnecessary trouble an arrangement would be made whereby one set of returns would be made to serve. There remains the trade carried on by foreign vessels, and if the matter were again brought forward we can hardly think the collection of statistics in regard to this branch will meet with the opposition it did on the former occasion. Legislation on the subject was originally recommended by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. MACINTOSH, one of the strongest supporters of the Bill, is now, the Chairman of that body. If the Bill were re-introduced in the Legislative Council doubtless it would again receive the support of the Chamber, and in a general meeting of the mercantile community the vote recorded in March 1888, would probably be reversed. To what extent public opinion has undergone modification during the last four years may to some extent be gauged from the fact that the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD's proposal for the establishment of a bonded warehouse for opium has been received almost without a word of dissent.

At Singapore statistics of the imports and exports are collected and the mercantile community in that port, so far, from regarding it as a hardship or in any way undesirable, highly appreciate it, as is shown by the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce to secure the perfection of the system. That Hongkong should have no similar returns is certainly unfortunate. Speaking at the public meeting held in March, 1888, Mr. MACINTOSH said— "This is a civilized community, and I think it is a standing disgrace to us that we should have existed so many years without a record of what the trade is, without even a vestige of a record worthy of the name. That is the opinion of the head of one of the leading shipping firms of the Colony, and to far as I am aware it would entail trouble or expense. Mr. MACINTOSH's firm would suffer in proportion to the magnitude of his business. Mr. MACINTOSH showed in his speech, however, how little the trouble would amount to. At the same meeting the Hon. A. P. MACEWAN said it had been represented to him of the most reliable and established shipping firms in the East, if not in the world, that some official statistics of the trade of the port should be kept, that similar requests had been addressed to him from commercial centres, and that astonishment had been expressed, that in one of the leading British colonies such a total absence of statistics respecting its trade should exist. With the exception of the argument as to the effect the proposed system might have on the Chinese, the only other respectable argument put forward was that it would impose considerable trouble and some expense on the community. The trouble, and expense, however, would be a mere nothing as compared with the trouble and expense to be borne in almost every other port in the world. The real basis of the opposition to the Bill was the fear that it would interfere with certain contraband trade. This was not openly advanced in argument, but at the public meeting Mr. MACEWAN taxed the opposition with it affords to the mercantile community it is a practice that might well have been tolerated in the future as it has been in the past. The Government, however, insists that all letters must now pass through the Post Office, and as that office appears to be unable to deliver the letters in time for them to be answered the same day the mercantile community will be subjected to very appreciable loss and inconvenience which will be in no degree counterbalanced by the very insignificant revenue that will be derived by the Government. In Shanghai, with its admirable local Post Office, every letter is delivered within half-an-hour of the arrival of the steamer which brings it at the same time. There seems no good reason why this same efficiency should not prevail in postal affairs here, except that this is a Crown Colony with a bureaucratic form of government, whereas in Shanghai the residents are permitted to arrange matters of a post office to their own satisfaction.

THE AUDIENCE QUESTION.
The statement that the French and Russian Ministers to Peking are insisting on being received in audience in the Imperial Palace itself is welcome news if true. The general reception of the Foreign Ministers last spring does not follow the population; it is the population that follows the shipping. Under the circumstances the good government of the harbour and the maintenance of low taxation on vessel-entering is of prime importance. It is a matter of great interest that the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD proposed at the last meeting of the Legislative Council that provision should be made in the Merchant Shipping Bill for the appointment of a Lighthouse Board. Unfortunately the hon. gentleman had not arranged any concerned action with his colleagues, who, being taken by surprise, were somewhat at a loss as to the bearings of the question. The Hon. J. J. KEEWICK agreed that it was important to keep the lights, but at the same time he said that it is difficult to see where the opposition would now come from if a Bill similar to that condemned in 1888 were again brought forward.

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THE PROPOSED NEW GAOL.

His Excellency the Acting Governor may be congratulated on his skill as a special pleader. Having received the directions of the Secretary of State to obtain a preliminary vote for a new gaol, General BAXTER made out the best case possible in favour of under-taking that most unnecessary and expensive work. That the present gaol is not an ideally perfect structure we know, and His Excellency skilfully dwelt on the measure by which it falls short of ideal perfection, ignoring everything that could be said in favour of its practical sufficiency for the needs of the Colony. If nothing short of a Jumbo expenditure were to be tolerated in the Colony we would be launched out on a Jumbo expenditure and be in a state of bankruptcy before we knew where we were. Not only would all existing departments have to be provided with new quarters and increased establishments, but new ones would have to be added. It might not unreasonably be suggested, for us to take the lead in the Colony we would be launched out on a Jumbo expenditure and be in a state of bankruptcy before we knew where we were. Not only would all existing departments have to be provided with new quarters and increased establishments, but new ones would have to be added. It might not unreasonably be suggested, for us to take the lead in the Colony we would be launched out on a Jumbo expenditure and be in a state of bankruptcy before we knew where we were. Not only would all existing departments have to be provided with new quarters and increased establishments, but new ones would have to be added. It might not unreasonably be suggested, for us to take the lead in the Colony we would be launched out on a Jumbo expenditure and be in a state of bankruptcy before we knew where we were. Not only would all existing departments have to be provided with new quarters and increased establishments, but new ones would have to be added. 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I certainly have had no previous reason for example on the subject of the new Bill, and if the hon. Gentleman had included in his resolution anything with reference to this special expenditure, I would have been very willing to give it my support so far as that was concerned, also I do my duty on various other items, but I do not find I can support the resolution as it now stands. The Acting Attorney-General—I do not think the Government could put forward any special reason for accepting the suggestion of the hon. member. Most bills come into operation directly they are passed. This Bill, however, affects the whole of the year, and I do not see that any hardship would ensue from the coming into force on the date named. The hon. member has simply proposed that the date should be postponed. He has no shown that any hardship would happen by the Bill coming into force on the 1st January. Perhaps the hon. member will be able to call to mind the estimates for that work. What would have been the position if the unusual membership went forward with what I cannot but call another proposal, that is, to postpone the coming into force until a later date? It would have been the same for our predecessors on this line as to have faced manifestly that great public work. I say you cannot carry out great public works of that kind on narrow budgeting lines. While urging on the Government the necessity of economy, I say I am unable owing to what I consider the inherent difficulties, to support this resolution.

A division was then taken, when there voted for the resolution Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. H. Kui, and Hon. P. Ryrie, and aga not it Hon. J. Kieswetter and all the official members.

THE BUILDING ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney-General—This first clause of the Ordinance of the day is the third clause of the British Bill, and it may stand however that the Acting Surveyor-General desires that the Bill should be committal as there are certain slight amendments, chiefly verbal, which he desired to make in clause 11 and clause 16 of the schedule.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

On section 15, which gives power to the Surveyor-General to partially stop or divert the traffic along any road for the purpose of carrying out works of a public nature,

The Acting Surveyor-General said that with regard to this clause the power given was not sufficient, and he desired to make certain changes in 1883. A suggestion had been made, in which he was quite willing to consent, that notice should be given of such temporary stopping of the roadway where practicable. The clause only gave the same power to the Surveyor-General as he could give to every private person in the Colony.

Hon. T. H. Whitehead—I say that he did not know whether he was quite in order, if His Excellency would permit it, to make an expression of opinion from one of the architects in the Colony with regard to the clause which he had received just before he attended the Council Chamber. The latter was:

"I have no objection to this, except in respect to Section N. 15 (the last), which would, if passed, give the Surveyor-General almost unlimited power; such power as no surveyor or municipal surveyor has at home or elsewhere, and I speak from experience. The home surveyors have power to stop up public streets for the purpose of carrying out public works, but when it is necessary to do so, they are compelled to give up their work to the surveyor of roads, and I have no hesitation in saying (and I say it with all respect to the P. W. D.) that he has no right or any other similar right than that work in hand, we could easily have completed it in half the time the P. W. D. have already been over it; all the stones, for instance, for the new bridge at Kowloon have been prepared, dressed at the quay, and set up ready for use; which should then have been numbered and brought over here as required; there would have been no difficulty in doing this, we have done it in many cases, such as for sewers, bridge piers, &c., for Singapore. In neither Shanghai nor any other city in the world (except this) would any surveyor have been compelled to remain for months in such public thralldom as at the Praya and Ice House Lane, turning these busy streets into a contractor's storage yard, exclusively for his own benefit. So far as regards depositing building or other material in public streets, and lighting and feeding open drains, and lighting at night, the P. W. D. should be placed in exactly the same position that you, Sir, or the general public are. As the law now stands, the Surveyor-General has no more power to create a public nuisance than you or I have; this is as it should be, and the law ought to remain so; the existing law is not inferior in any way with the exception of one clause, which I will now read, for which I have no objection to it, and that is the 15th clause of the Ordinance, which I will read, referring to this section. The Surveyor-General could, if he thought proper, stop up the whole of Quai's Head for a year or as long as he liked, and without giving a reason, so as to do damage, and no one could prevent him; he should be allowed, however, only to go into the boat and say, 'that is a boat which must stoppage is necessary,' and the police would be called to remove it from the quay. The Surveyor-General is defendant, judge, and jury on his own case."

The Acting Attorney-General said he did not know if it was fit for the consideration of the Government.

The Council then adjourned.

HEAVY GALE.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF CRAFT AND LOSS OF LIFE.

Thursday, the 3rd inst., was a day of noteworthy meteorological eccentricity in Hongkong. The morning broke with a remarkable variance of temperature, and under the influence of the heavy winds, the sea was running with unceasing heat from an almost cloudless sky. In the early part of the afternoon, however, it suddenly became cooler and the wind shifted round from S.E. towards the North shortly after which there was a sharp shower and the clouds drove across the harbour in a manner which was most singular. The weather was now very bad, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 4th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 5th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 6th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 7th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 8th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 9th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 10th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 11th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 12th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 13th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 14th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 15th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 16th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 17th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 18th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 19th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 20th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 21st inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 22nd inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 23rd inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 24th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats laden with stones were lost. The schooner *Montford* had her bowsprit carried away. Nearly all the steam launches were dragged on to the Praya. When the next wave advanced she secured a hold of her daughter's arm, and it seemed as if she was to succumb in pulling her daughter, when the last wash of the wave carried them both, and the sky looked cold and lowering, the temperature at the same time continuing to fall rapidly. A few minutes before eight the wind rose and was soon blowing with considerable force from the S.W. In this quarter, however, it did not long last, and the clouds drove across the harbour in a second round to N.E. This unexpected shower, increasing as it was, was over in a moment, naturally creating the greatest consternation in the harbour, especially among the small and fragile sea-craft, which, with never so much warning, are always dangerously situated in a squall which has suddenly come on them.

On the 25th inst. the wind had subsided, and the large junks had been scattered in the fairway, and at Yau Ma Tei several small boats

